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ABSTRACT

Appropriate for adult reading, 27 books published between 1969 and 1982 are listed in this annotated bibliography for those studying the Iranian Revolution. Works are arranged into two categories: (1) "Background Materials: Islam and Petroleum," which lists basic works that make it easier to place events in Iran within an intelligible framework; and (2) "The Iranian Revolution," which outlines some of the many current works on the Iranian Revolution. The author, place of publication, publication date, price, International Standard Book Number, and an annotation accompany each entry. (LH)

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Selecting Materials on the Iranian Revolution.

A Short Bibliography of Materials Now in Print

By

James Joseph Sanchez

March 1983

I would like to acknowledge the assistance of Dr. William Royce, of the Oriental Studies Department at the University of Arizona, whose seminar in the Iranian Revolution lead me into many of these readings.

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Selecting Materials On The Iranian Revolution
A Short Bibliography of Materials Now in Print

This bibliography deals with the recent events in Iran. Being and area that is outside the subject experience of most Americans, selecting the most appropriate materials for a small collection is a difficult task.

The following materials are all available at the present time. Each (with just one exception noted below) has been read by the author. In many cases, the volumes are compared with others in the list. This makes it very easy to choose the best among several possibilities. This is an added help. For not only does this list allow an informed selection for a collection costing \$350, it allows for the selection of a smaller collection.

There are two listings below. The first lists several basic works which make it easier to place the events in Iran within an intelligible framework. The second list deals with some of the many current works on the Iranian Revolution.

Background Materials: Islam and Petroleum
(Islam)

Hodgson, Marshall G. S. The Venture of Islam: Conscience and History in a World Civilization. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1974. 3 vols. ISBN 0-226-34677-3. \$28.50. This is the first major work which addresses the Islamic historical experience in a comprehensive and analytical manner. The value of this work is immense. As an attempt to create a systematic terminology and method alone it is indispensable. But more than that, it is a thorough and reliable guide to the development of Islamic civilization. This is the most important work in this paper.

(Petroleum)

Blair, John. Control of Oil. New York: Pantheon, 1977. ISBN 0-394-49470-9. \$15.00. This is the best of the three books on petroleum and its impact on the middle east. Although written with an American perspective, it carefully chronicles the emergence of the modern petroleum cartels, including OPEC. An essential work for an understanding of the role of oil and the oil industry in the world.

Nore and Turnes, eds. Oil and Class Struggle. London: Zed Press, 1980. 905762-38. 12.95 British Pounds. This very interesting work is a collection of essays on the impact of petroleum based economic development and political change. Including two articles on the Iranian revolution, it is a useful approach to the role of the oil workers in the final, successful days of the Iranian Revolution.

Sampson, Anthony. The Seven Sisters: The Great Oil Companies and the World They Made. Baltimore: Viking Books, 1975. ISBN 0-394-45367-8. \$10.00. A useful general work on the oil industry, with special attention to the great multinational oil companies. Much inferior to Blair above but more journalistic in style and hence easier reading. Sampson is a good popularizer.

The Iranian Revolution

Akhavi, Shahrough. Religion and Politics in Contemporary Iran: Clergy-State Relations in the Pahlavi Period. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press, 1980. ISBN 0-87395-408-4. \$29.00. This is a significant and scholarly account of the deterioration of relations between state and clergy under the Shah. The most interesting argument is that the clergy was radicalized by the repression of the government.

Albert, David H. ed. Tell The American People: Perspectives on the Iranian Revolution. Philadelphia: New Society Publications, 1980. revised edition. ISBN 0-8671-001-5. \$14.95. This is a very good collection of short essays on several neglected subjects: labor, women and the slums of South Teheran. It includes a striking photo-essays on the contrasts in the lives led by those who benefited by the regime and those who were deprived.

Algar, Hamid, translator from the Persian. Constitution of The Islamic Republic of Iran. Berkeley: Mizan Press, 1980. ISBN 0-933782-07-1. \$7.95. This is an important document for understanding the Islamic Republic itself. While it might not excite general interest, it is a valuable research document.

-----Islam and Revolution: Writings and Declarations of Imam Khomeini. Berkeley: Mizan Press, 1981. ISBN 0-933782-03-9. \$8.95 paperback. This is an excellent translation of the very structured and difficult statement of Khomeini's political doctrine. Written in the form of a series of tight syllogisms, it is certainly a difficult, but revealing text. To be much preferred to the poor popular translation published by Manor Books.

Baraheini, Reza. The Crowned Cannibals: Writings on Repression in Iran. Berkeley, California: Mizan Press, 1980. ISBN 0-394-723570. \$3.95 (paperback). This collection of short works by Baraheini is a mixed bag. His strongest contribution is his account of his 120 days of torture under the Shah. His works are uneven, however.

Bonine, Micheal E. and Keddie, N, eds. Continuity and Change in Modern Iran. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1981. \$7.95 (Paperback). ISBN 0-87395-466-1. This is an excellent collection of articles which range across Iran and its present problems and minorities. Includes excellent articles on trade unions and regional elites.

Carlsen, Robin Woodsworth. Seventeen Days in Tehran: Revolution, Evolution and Ignorance. Victoria, British Columbia, Canada: Snow Man Press, 1980. \$4.95. This is a very good impressionistic account of conditions in Iran very soon after Khomeini's seizure of power. Much better than V.S. Naipal's account because of Carlsens more open approach to what he saw.

Cottam, Richard W. Nationalism in Iran: Updated through 1978. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1979. \$6.95 (paperback). ISBN 0-8224-5299-8. The standard account of the national minorities question in Iran. This is an especially significant issue considering the fact that to a real extent, Iran is a nation of minorities.

Forbis, William H. Fall of the Peacock Throne: The Story of Iran. New York: McGraw Hill Books, 1981. \$6.95 (paperback). ISBN-0-07-021486-7. A reasonable general and journalistic account of the collapse of the government of the Shah. Suitable for general readers.

Graham, Robert. Iran. New York: St. Martins Press, 1979. \$5.95 (paperback). ISBN-0-312-43588-6. This is a good journalistic account of the economic issues that underlaid the Revolution. It is generally reliable for the period up to and including the fall of the Shah. For the best economic perspective, see Katouzian below.

Halliday, Fred. Iran: Dictatorship and Development. New York: Penguin, 1979. \$3.95 (paperback). ISBN-0-14-022010-0. This is certainly the best short account of the events that led up to the Shah's losing control of the situation. Initially written before the revolution, the book continues to be very reliable and authoritative, an accomplishment which is a very good commentary on the accuracy of the author's account. Highly Recommended.

Helms, Cynthia. An Ambassador's Wife in Iran. New York: Dodd, 1981. \$12.95. ISBN 0-396-07881-8. This is a rather curious work as those below by the Pahlavi twins are curious. This is essentially an apologia for American policies in Iran, with such pithy comments as the fact that Iranians find torture to be normal since they are so inclined to bloodshed. Not recommended unless one's collection is intended to be comprehensive.

Hoveyda, Fereydoun. The Last Days of the Shah. New York: Wyndham Books, Simon and Schuster, 1980. \$9.95. ISBN-0-686-61454-2. This is an interesting apologia by the former Imperial Ambassador to the UN. The book includes amusing anecdotes of the corruption in Iran. One good example is an account of the American businessman who was imprisoned by the Imperial Guard until he paid the Shah's sister Ashraf one million dollars, since she felt mistreated in a deal.

International Solidarity Front for the Defense of the Iranian People's Democratic Rights. The Crimes of the Khomeini Regime. Washington, D.C. (?): International Solidarity Front, 1982. \$10.00 (?) No ISBN number. This is an excellent account of the human rights violations under Khomeini's medieval religious fascism. It has sections on political prisoners, women, artists and national minorities. The appendices includes many US sources for documentation. Highly recommended.

Jazani, Bizhan. Capitalism and Revolution in Iran: Selected Writings. London, England: Zed Press, 1981. \$17.00 ISBN-0-905767-82-7. This is the best account of the ideological development of the Iranian left. The author wrote these essays while in a SAVAK prison and hence the work is not footnoted. No better work has been published in English on the vision of the early militant opposition to the Shah.

Katouzian, Homa. The Political Economy of Modern Iran: Despotism and Pseudo-Modernism, 1926-1979. New York: New York University Press, 1981. \$40.00. ISBN-0-8147-4577-6. This is the best available account of the Iranian economy and its mis-development under the Pahlavi Shahs. For to understand the development of the revolutionary consensus, it is necessary to approach the question of the Iranian economy. It was the failure of the Shah's economic programs amidst the vast wealth from oil that polarized the Iranian people and which led to the revolution.

An indispensable part of any Iranian collection.
(Review from Stewart Edgington, PhD candidate,
UA Oriental Studies Department).

Keddie, Nikki R. and Yamm, Richard. Roots of Revolution:
An Interpretive History of Modern Iran. New Haven:
Yale University Press, 1981. \$25.00. ISBN-0-300-
2606-4. This book is a thorough history of the
modern period of Iranian history. It includes a
section on the 1978-9 Revolution. I did find it
to be a rather timid account, in terms of its
unwillingness to draw conclusions.

Millet, Kate. Going to Iran. New York: Coward, McCann and
Geoghegan, 1982. \$15.95. ISBN-0-698-11095-1. Perhaps
better named, With Kate Millet in Iran, this book is
a curious mixture of genuine political insight and
poor editing. Much of the book is a pastiche of the
authors feelings. This might not be such a problem
in some contexts, but here such diversions do
detract from the narrative, which is women in Iran
after the Revolution. Still of some merit.

Pahlavi, Ashraf. Faces in a Mirror: Memoirs from Exile.
New York: Prentice-Hall, 1980. \$12.95. ISBN-0-13-
299137-4. This is a fairly simple minded apologia
for the failure of the Pahlavis to maintain their
control of Iran through Repression. Not recommended
unless one's collection is intended to be comprehen-
sive.

Pahlavi, Mohammed Reza (once known as Shah). Answer to
History. New York: Stein and Day. \$12.95. ISBN-0-
149-781-0. In this book, the question as to why
the Shah fell from power is posed. It seems as
if everyone in the world is to blame except for the
Shah, who might have been presumed to have had some
role in the failure. Seized upon as proof of Carter's
negligence, this must be one of history's great unread
apologias. Not recommended unless one's collection
is intended to be comprehensive.

Roosevelt, Kermit. Counter coup: The Struggle for the Control
of Iran. New York: McGraw Hill, 1979. \$12.95. ISBN-0-
07-053540-6. A short and interesting account of how
America became identified with the Shah. Of course,
this was a foreseeable result of replacing the popular
government with the Shah. Still a useful introduction
to the methods of toppling governments that have
gotten us into such difficulties. It ends with an
ingenious plea not to use such methods.

Rubin, Barry. Paved With Good Intentions: The American Experience in Iran. New York: Penguin, 1981. \$5.95 (paperback). ISBN-0-567483-09-3. Basically a very biased text, although of some value. Its premise is that the US acted with mainly altruistic intent and that any advantages gained were incidental. While the thesis of the book seems untenable, some information presented is very interesting. While not to be an exclusive acquisition, within the context of a small collection this book can find a place.

Shuster, William M. Strangling of Persia: Story of the European Diplomacy and Oriental Intrigue That Resulted in the Denationalization of 12 million Mohammedans a Personal Narrative. Westport, Ct: Greenwood Press. 1969 reprint of the 1912 edition. \$24.50. ISBN-0-345625-45-9. A basic introduction into imperialism in Iran. The hero of this unlikely account is an American banker who tried to manage the finances of a disintegrating Persia. Forced to leave by the forces of British and Russian imperialism, Schuster left a legacy of goodwill towards the US that has been pretty thoroughly excised.